Top Secret

POLAND

Party and government leaders are meeting with workers and various party organizations in an effort to regain the initiative in Polard's current domestic crisis.

Party leader Kania was in Szczecin, one of the more important centers of free trade union activity, where he met with some free trade union leaders on Friday for the first time. Kania reacknowledged the workers' right to strike in extreme situations and no doubt attempted to convince the union leaders of his sincerity about honoring the strike settlements. He probably also attempted to impress them with the limits placed on his freedom of action by Poland's severe economic situation and the need for workers to resume work full time.

While in Szczecin, Kania also attended a meeting of the provincial party's leadership, which focused on economic problems and ways to restore the morale and purpose of party members.

The Minister of Home Trade and Services and the Chairman of the State Price Commission over the weekend met with workers at the Lenin Steelworks in Krakow to stress that they were aware of local shortages and that eliminating them had the highest priority.

Union leader Walesa apparently did not meet with Kania but instead was in Gdansk, where he inspected a model of a monument to workers killed there in the riots of 1970. Construction of the monument was called for in the strike settlement.

Other union spokesmen are still complaining about obstruction of union activities by local party and state officials, and leaders of the "Solidarity" Union met yesterday in Gdansk to discuss the failure of the Warsaw court to register their union.

Warsaw Pact Meeting

Moscow announced on Saturday that a meeting of Warsaw Pact foreign ministers will be held in Warsaw in the second half of October. Such meetings normally are held at this time of the year, and it is Warsaw's turn to host the gathering.

14 October 1980

4

Approved for Release Date AUG 1999